



## Bill Brewer Selected As AKT President-Elect

William T. "Bill" Brewer, drama/speech instructor at Hutchinson Community College, was named AKT President-Elect following tabulation of mail-in ballots from the membership early in June. According to AKT by-laws, Brewer will serve a year on the Board of Directors prior to assuming the presidency of the organization at next year's Convention in Lawrence. He will then serve an additional two years at the helm of the association.

Brewer has taught at HCC since 1984. He began his teaching career in Oklahoma public schools following graduation from Southeastern Oklahoma State University in 1971. He earned a masters degree in drama from the University

of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark., in 1984.

Experienced in all phases of theatre, Brewer has worked for most of his career in one-man departments. In Hutchinson, he has overseen the development of the Fine Arts Building (site of the 1989 AKT Convention and the 1990 — and 1991 — University/College Division Theatre Festival); built the department from three students to "... something more recognizable as a college theatre program"; and created a summer theatre program which recently completed its third season and continues to grow each year.

Brewer lives with his wife, Lou, also an AKT member, and two sons in Hutchinson.



Brewer

## Convention '92 To Feature Children's Theatre

Despite the fact that the 1992 AKT Convention in Lawrence won't occur until March 5-8, 1992, Convention Chair Ric Averill and his committee are already at work planning an outstanding weekend for AKT members. Working theme for the convention is "FUSION" — bringing together presenters and artists, teachers and directors, performers and playwrights, communities and professionals, and college and high schools. While the focus is on theatre for youth, Averill promises that workshops and convention activities will provide the proverbial "something for everyone" for all of AKT.

The "accent on youth" will provide sharing of ideas across divisional lines: Some possibilities include new ways to fuse theatre and education; new ways to fuse theatre for youth into current theatre programs; new ways to include educational components into professional presentations; new ways to bring children (and, especially, their parents) into a community theatre, and new ways to have children prepared for college by participating in theatre activities.

For the first time, K-12 teachers at the convention may receive inservice credit for attendance. They will participate in presenta-

tions by Pamela Sterling, artistic director, Honolulu Theatre for Youth; Carolyn Rutherford, manager, Nebraska Caravan; and Jeff Church, artistic director, Coterie Children's Theatre.

In addition, members of Mid-America Presenters (producers from Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska or Arkansas interested in booking tour shows into their facilities) have been invited to join AKT members in viewing presentations by Theatre Works, U.S.A. from New York; Wichita Children's Theatre Outreach; Nebraska Theatre Caravan; Lawrence High School; Theatre for Young America, Overland Park; Pioneer Trail Jr. High, Olathe; Seem-To-Be Players, Lawrence; Illustrated Theatre Company, Chicago; KU Theatre for Young People; and Emmy Gifford Children's Theatre, Omaha. Presenters are eligible to have travel and convention fees paid by the Mid-America Arts Alliance.

Some productions already committed include Lawrence High School's *Scrapbooks* by Pam Sterling, followed by a discussion with the playwright; *The World of Missing Persons* by Pioneer Trail Jr. High; *Goldilocks* by Theatre for Young America; and *I Married Adventure* by Seem-To-Be Players.

Also new this year will be the method of presenting awards. Secondary School awards to teachers and administrators will be presented at an awards banquet Friday evening. Major AKT awards will be presented at a formal dinner/dance Saturday evening. Keynote speaker scheduled is Jed Davis, retired KU professor of children's theatre, and one of the founders of AKT.

Workshops and presentations will, of course, be planned throughout the weekend. Afterglows are planned after the Thursday and Friday night activities, and the convention will close with the traditional Sunday buffet/annual meeting.

All activities will take place at the Lawrence Holiday Inn Holidome, 200 MacDonald Drive (just off the West Lawrence exit of the Kansas Turnpike/I-70). Rooms cost \$50 per night, double occupancy, and early

Continued on page 3

## First Volume of Kansas Playwrights Nears Completion By Woodley Press

The first volume of scripts by Kansas playwrights should be available for purchase at next year's AKT Convention in Lawrence, according to Robert N. Lawson, editor of The Bob Woodley Memorial Press. The five plays in the collection were finalists in last year's Robert E. Gross Playwriting Competition co-sponsored by the Woodley Press, Center For Kansas Studies at Washburn University and AKT. Repha Buckman, Professional Division Chair is editor of the volume.

Lawson said the volume will be "inexpensive and convenient to use as a script," and AKT member theatres are encouraged to consider full stage productions or readings of these plays.

Prize winner for the Gross competition was Larry R. Sadowski of Newton, for his play *The Journal of Joshua Hosannah*. Sadowski was presented a certificate and a check for \$100 for his first place finish.

*The Journal of Joshua Hosannah* is a "play for voices," having evolved from a selection of poems for readers' theatre into a full-scale production that retains that choral quality, using four men and two women in a variety of roles, as the life of a late-19th Century Kansas farmer is passed in review, drawing —

from his journal — "snapshot" experiences that are, for the most part, community-centered, more representative and domestic than individual or catastrophic, employing a number of songs from Carl Sandburg's *America's Songbag* thematically, and using the Shaker hymn, "Simple Gifts," as a signature piece.

Four additional scripts complete the first volume of Kansas playwrights:

■ *Dirk's Exodus*, by James C. Juhnke of Newton, is an adaptation of an event, recounted in Martyr's Mirror (1685), that occurred in Asperen, Holland, in 1569. Dirk Willems, an Anabaptist pursued by agents of the Inquisition, doubled back to save a pursuer who had fallen through the ice, was captured, and awaits execution. Hans Hendriks, the man he saved, is now his jailer. Counterpointed by choral music, and by moral problems introduced by the Inquisitor, Dirk's children and Hans' wife (who is baptized by Dirk just before he is led off to the stake), the action turns on the moral choices and sacrifices of these two men, caught in the currents of the Reformation.

■ *Voices From The Front: The Survivors Project*, by Scott Curry of Wichita, has the avowed purpose of raising awareness about

Continued on page 3



# Report From The Community Theatre Division

"An actor once auditioned for me from behind the curtain for the role of 'Atticus' in *To Kill A Mockingbird* because he was too nervous for me to watch him. I cast him in the part. His performance was wonderful."

Patt Curtin related this story to community theatre directors and actors from around the state gathered in Hutchinson for the fourth "AKT Community Theatre Workshop Series," sponsored by Southwestern Bell Foundation, August 3. Curtin, a community theatre director and member of the board of directors of the Oklahoma Community Theatre Association, used the story to illustrate some of the "pitfalls and how to overcome them" involved in directing for the small community theatre.

More than 30 community theatre enthusiasts from Andover, Chanute, Derby, Great Bend, Hutchinson, Stafford, and Wichita met for the one-day workshop that featured "Marketing for the Community Theatre" during the morning session, and "Directing for the Small Community Theatre" after lunch.

Accompanying Curtin was George Ann Bordelon, Watonga, Okla., a community theatre actress who has won a number of awards in the southwest region. Using the tools and suggestions that Curtin had enumerated in the workshop as a guide, Bordelon performed a monologue from *The Road to Mecca* to help

illustrate points presented.

Following the workshop, attendees were given a tour of the Historic Fox Theatre in downtown Hutchinson. The theatre is currently undergoing a multimillion dollar renovation as a performing arts facility.

The next workshop, the fifth in the series,

is currently being planned for later in the fall. Tentative location is Great Bend, and more information will be forthcoming. If you have ideas for topics for future workshops, please let me know.

Denny B. Vick, Chairman  
Community Theatre Division

## From The President-Elect

To the AKT Membership:

I want to express my thanks to you for your confidence in me. I hope that I can serve the membership even partly as well as **John Hunter** and so many others have done. I want you to know that I hope to hear directly from you when you have a concern, an idea or a comment of any kind. (I'm really not as difficult to reach as some might have you believe — just busy!)

John Hunter needs to have praise heaped upon him. He has worked diligently and unceasingly for you. AKT is in good financial shape as we head into the future. You may never know of all the things he has done to secure a solid, reasonable budgetary process for us. I plan to continue the same policy: if you have an idea, don't forget to bring along a budget to show how it will be paid for.

We live in a time when this kind of financial reasoning is absolutely necessary. It's going to get much harder to be dependent upon the "kindness of strangers" to secure funds for theatre and other arts. I feel strongly that we must be as self-supporting as possible. I follow that idea at HCC Theatre, where we operate over 90 percent of our theatre budget from the box office — and it works. I have stronger control over finances and am not reliant on the general fund for a budget. There is freedom in being financially strong.

This is AKT membership "hunting" season! Don't forget to send yours in (*yes, I already have*), and bring a friend, too! One area I hope to work on strongly is visibility for the organization. We need to let potential members — and other supporters — know we're here and what we can offer them. **YOU** are the key to accomplishing this: tell someone about AKT and the potential the organization has for them. Let's try to contact and make members of anyone and everyone who can benefit from AKT. Let's try to make it **(A)ll (K)ansas (T)heatres** who are members!

Finally, I must note my own excitement about the next convention. Rick, Laurie, John and others have a dynamic list of performances and workshops planned. It will be a full and energizing convention! Plan to be part of it!

Again, I look forward to serving you over the next two years. Please let me know your thoughts, ideas and concerns as we look to a good future for theatre in Kansas!

Bill Brewer, President-Elect

## Volunteer Recognition Tips Offered

The May 1991 issue of *Communications Briefings* contained the following piece which can prove useful to AKT member theatres:

Try these suggestions when you want to recognize those special volunteers:

- Institute an honor roll to commemorate the work of volunteers who have done an outstanding job.
- Provide each person mentioned on the honor roll with a certificate and send a news release to community media and the volunteer's place of business.
- Have a roast for the volunteer and invite members of your organization to participate.
- Hold a special event for key volunteers and invite community leaders to join the salute.

SOURCE: *Association Trends*, 4948 St. Elmo Ave., #306, Bethesda, MD 20814.

## Contributors

Thanks to the following members who have demonstrated their support for AKT by becoming Contributing Members:

### FRIENDS

Twink Lynch      Charley Oldfather  
Topeka              Lawrence

### CONTRIBUTORS

Rick Tyler              Philip John Kinen  
McPherson              Lenexa

Jackie Hinton  
Atchison

Warren Deckert      Roberta Harkness  
Pawnee Rock          Dodge City

## From The President

Dear Members,

Our 1990-91 fiscal year has come to an end. We have had our ups and downs, but basically the events of this last year have been positive. This — or any other — organization can't function properly unless it is financially solvent. I am happy to state that AKT has finished the year in the black. I extend my thanks to the membership who accepted the dues increase. My thanks also to Southwestern Bell and Kansas Arts Commission for their great support. My sincere appreciation to John Gedraitis and the other Board members who understood the need to be fiscally responsible.

As I stated at our August Board meeting, "... keep those creative ideas coming, but bring along a funding plan with them." An example of one good idea regarded the June National AACT/FEST at **Johnson County Community College**. The Board agreed to pay \$200 for a table from which a t-shirt/sweatshirt company could imprint and sell shirts. Our profit on that little adventure was \$370 after expenses — not great, but better than a loss, and it supplied the participants with a beautiful souvenir of the AACT/FEST, as well as providing a chance to get AKT's name in front of theatre people from all over the country.

1991-92 appears bright on the horizon. AKT, in cooperation with the Woodley Press and the Center for Kansas Studies, will be publishing the first collection of Kansas original scripts. AKT will receive a percentage of the profits from the book sales, so we will be encouraging all of you to not only purchase a copy at the convention, but to seriously consider producing one of the selections.

Plans for our March convention are ahead of schedule and more exciting than ever. We will be venturing into new territory with this convention by arranging for K-12 in-service credit. Workshops and performances will allow us the opportunity to continue promoting the K-12 curriculum guide that **Jeanne Klein** and her committee so successfully put together last year.

Other activities of note: president-elect **Bill Brewer** and **Rick Tyler**, University/College Division Chair, are putting together the final plans for the division's state theatre festival, tentatively set for November 22-23 in Hutchinson. **Denny Vick**, Community Theatre Division Chair, is also working with the **Boot Hill Repertory Theatre** staff in Dodge City on another CT workshop sometime this fall. The Community Theatre Division has been very successful in presenting a number of these state-wide workshops, each of which has drawn 25-30 participants from a wide variety of member theatres.

Our next Board meeting is scheduled for November 2 at the **Salina Community Theatre**. We will be focusing on long-range planning and review of our constitution and by-laws. If you have questions or would like to make suggestions regarding the organization, please let any of us know. (*Phone numbers of all Board members are on page 6.*)

I wish you all well with the start-up of your seasons. If AKT can be of service to you, please let us know.

John Hunter, President



# An Open Letter To U/C Division Members:

This is an invitation to you to attend and/or enter the Second Annual AKT College Theatre Festival November 22 and 23, 1991. Once again the Festival site will be Hutchinson Community College. Last year's Festival was quite successful, and with you involved, our second will be also!

The focus of this Festival is on sharing productions, encouraging acting students, and communicating the concerns and needs of theatre faculty and students in the state. Most of our membership is not able to participate in regional or national theatre festivals because of the expense and time demands. It is important for the faculty and students at these schools to be exposed to different styles and perspectives. This Festival seeks to provide that need. The AKT U/C Festival is not a competitive event, though we will have outstanding adjudicators present to react to your production! This Festival is designed as a learning event and a service of AKT.

As the schedule is now constructed, there will be room for eight (8) entries, approximately one hour in length. (Let us know the exact length and we'll work with you.) Entries will be taken on a "first-come" basis. Workshops will be held on both Friday and Saturday with contents yet to be finalized. We will host an evening meal and discussion on Friday. And, in addition to playing hosts/technicians, Hutchinson Community College theatre students will present *The 1940's Radio Hour* in full-scale production November 21-23.

Cost? No entry fee for your production. (We ask each Festival entrant to become an organizational member of AKT — which entitles you to 3 free student memberships!) You cover royalties, production costs and travel expenses. \$15.00 for each Festival goer will cover the cost of the Friday evening meal and tickets to the HCC production. **YOU NEED NOT PREPARE AN ENTRY TO ATTEND THE FESTIVAL!** It's an opportunity

to see what everyone else is doing, expose your students to the process of adjudication, and to just have some fun!

See you in Hutchinson in November!

**Rick Tyler**  
U/C Division Chair

## Convention...

*Continued from page 1*

reservations are recommended. Call 913-841-7077 to make reservations.

Convention fees have been reduced over last year by making meals optional. AKT members will pay \$55 for all activities, less meals. A special student registration is available for \$15. Teachers requesting inservice credit will be charged \$75.

Meals may be purchased individually. The Thursday evening Welcome Banquet and the Friday Secondary Schools Banquet each cost \$10; Friday and Saturday box lunches cost \$6 each; price of the Saturday evening formal Dinner/Dance is \$20, and the Sunday Send-Off Buffet is available for \$8. Total meals cost if all meals are purchased is \$60.

"Early Bird" registrants — those sending in registrations before December 1, may subtract a \$5 discount from the total fees.

Please send checks to John A. Gedraitis, AKT Executive Director, 949 Parklane, Suite 332, Wichita, KS 67218, or call 316-685-9306. Inquiries may be addressed to Ric Averill, Convention '92 Chair, 2 Winona, Lawrence, KS 66046, or phone 913-842-6622 or 913-843-5067.

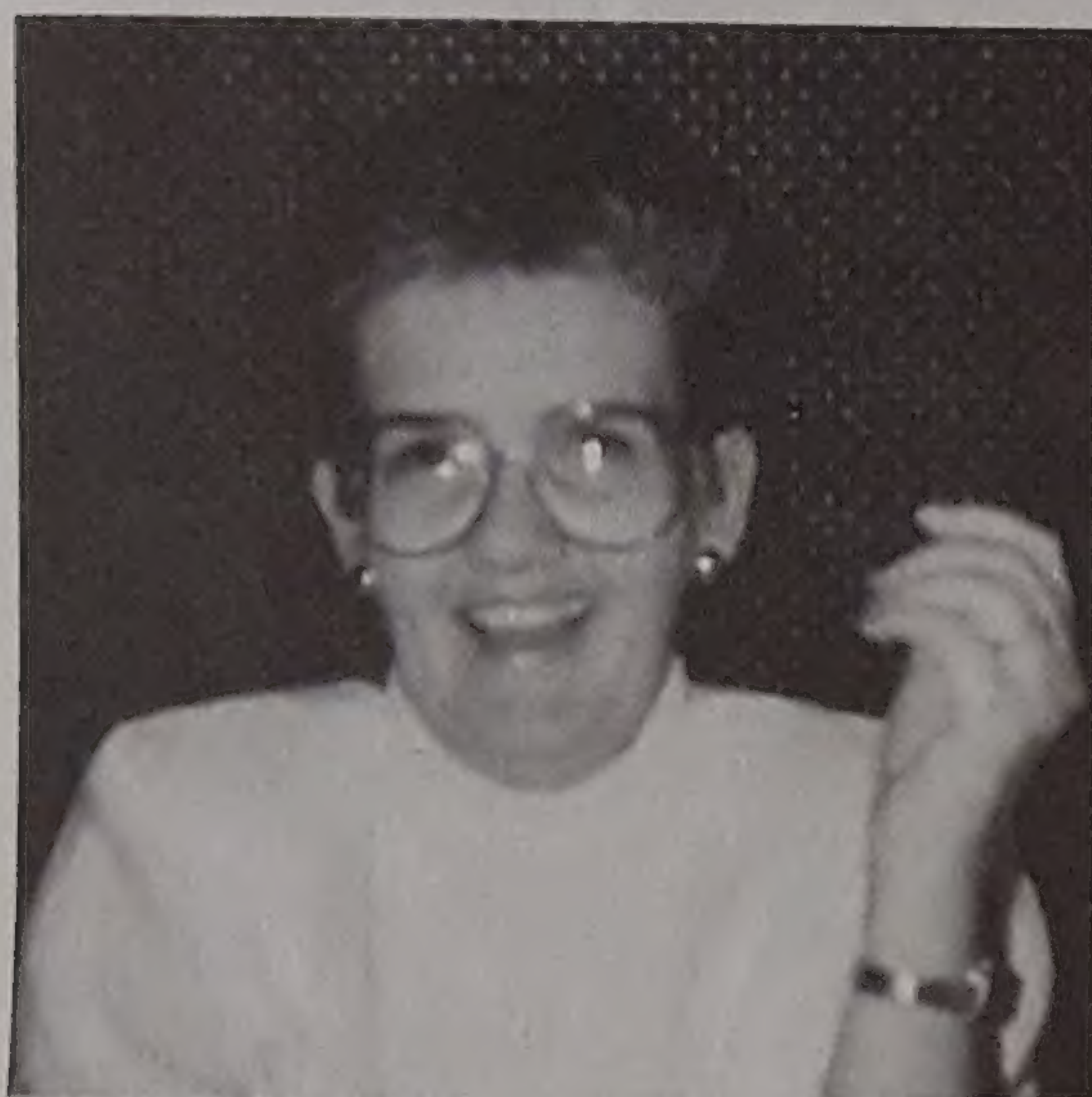
## Kansas Plays...

*Continued from page 1*

AIDS by adapting from "some 5000 type-written pages" drawn from a network computer bulletin board entitled "Survivors," messages written by people with AIDS, "people who are dying having conversations back and forth," edited so that half-a-dozen voices, some individual, some composite, dramatize and bring into focus "the heart and soul" of the survivors' stories, and, in the process, "smash two myths": that of "the poor dying AIDS victim," and that of "the poor heroic dying AIDS victim."

■ *Native Stone*, by James Steerman, formerly of Emporia and now of New York City, is set in the kitchen/living area of the Miller farm/ranch-house near Hymer, Diamond Creek, Cottonwood River Valley, Chase County, Kansas, and takes Archie Miller — a 75-year-old Kansas farmer for whom the 1,000 acres of prairie his family has lived on for 130 years, and the native stone house his great-grandfather built, define life — through the days before, during and after the auctioning of his land, as he tries to save it by making a final appeal to each of his three children, and as he comes to terms with the fact that each has long since left that land.

■ *Saturday's Child*, by Robert Peterson of El Dorado, takes place on a Sunday afternoon and Monday morning in the living room of an upper middle-class home in Topeka, Kansas. It involves a contest of wills between a daughter, Tuesday Langley Jackson, who was elected "Miss America" a month earlier, and who has decided, as cynicism about the "job" sets in, to resign, and her mother, Violet, who is glorying in the role of "Queen Mother," mediated by her "chaperone," Carol; her father, Jack; and her old boyfriend, Bernie, leading, after all of these relationships are passed in review, to a double reversal at the end.



VanderPol-Hosek



Smurr

## Two New Members Join AKT Board of Directors

At the AKT Convention earlier this year, two members were selected as Chair-Elects for their respective divisions. **Laurie VanderPol-Hosek** of Lawrence is the new Chair-Elect for the Community Theatre Division, and **Linda C. Smurr** of Newton is Chair-Elect for the Professional Theatre Division.

VanderPol-Hosek hails from South Dakota, where she completed a BFA in Theatre from the University of South Dakota. Before graduation, she implemented drama programs for children in five South Dakota communities and acted professionally with four companies. While attending graduate school at the University of Kansas, she became the director of Summer Youth Theatre, holding that position for six years. She has subsequently been very active with the **Lawrence Community Theatre** as a board member and as a director and actress. She received a superior acting award from AKT in 1985 for her portrayal of "Marta" in LCT's production of *Waiting For The Parade*.

During her career, she has directed nearly 50 productions, receiving two "Cultural Arts Enhancement Awards" from the Lawrence City Commission and Lawrence Arts Commission for her production of *West Side Story* and *Under Age I*.

The new Director of Children's Programs for Lawrence Community Theatre, VanderPol-Hosek spent the summer teaching in a new acting program for adults at the theatre. She is also hard at work on final drafts of her series of plays written by teenagers for teenagers, entitled *Under Age*, which she hopes to publish soon. She has written a total of 14 plays to date, 12 of which have been produced in South Dakota and Kansas. Her play, *Now Appearing*, was produced by KU and was the American College Theatre Festival "Original Play" entry in 1981.

VanderPol-Hosek lives with her husband and two sons in a big house in the country just outside Lawrence.

Smurr is a writer-performer-musician whose studio in Newton is called the "Den of Uniquity." A member of the Dramatists Guild, she creates scripts, adaptations and original or arranged music for a variety of projects. Her credits include productions by **Wichita Children's Theatre** touring company (*The Princess and the Pea*), **Empire House Dinner Theatre** (*A Christmas Carol*) and the Wichita River Festival (*The Legend of Windwagon Smith*). She is currently working on establishing a consulting service to museums on the use of theatre as an interpretive tool.

Past president of the Harvey County Historical Society, Smurr has written a newspaper column and recently completed compiling and editing a book on Harvey County history.

A native of Kansas City, Mo., Smurr made her stage debut at age five with what is now Missouri Repertory Theatre, but for many years thereafter channeled most of her energy into classical piano and vocal studies. Later, she performed extensively throughout the Midwest as a folksinger.

Since coming to Kansas in 1972, Smurr has performed in numerous community and professional theatre productions, including **Music Theatre of Wichita**, Crown-Uptown Dinner Theatre, **Bethel College**, **Newton Community Theatre**, Sand Creek Players and Dance Center of Newton. She has also served as musical director and accompanist for productions at **Newton Community Theatre**, **Bethel College** and **Empire House Dinner Theatre**.



# KAC Announces FY92 Grant Awards For AKT, Members

The Association of Kansas Theatre, Inc., has been awarded a \$4,000 Regional/Statewide Service Organizations grant from the Kansas Arts Commission, a portion of the more than one-half million dollars in grants made to Kansas non-profit arts, cultural and community organizations and schools. The awards were announced at the KAC quarterly business meeting in Topeka in June.

AKT members receiving KAC funding for FY92 include **Blue Valley Recreation Commission**, Overland Park; **Broadway RFD**, Lindsborg; **Hays Arts Council**; **Lawrence Community Theatre**; **Manhattan Civic Theatre**; **Music Theatre of Wichita**; **Paola Cultural Center**; **Salina Community Theatre**; **Seem-To-Be Players**, Lawrence, and **Wichita Center For The Arts, Inc.**

According to KAC's *Heartbeat* publication, effective July 1, KAC changed its grant-payment schedule, because of availability of funds and to save costs while assisting grantees — especially smaller ones — with increased control over fiscal management.

## Publications Available

### YOUTH THEATRE JOURNAL

This scholarly journal includes articles of immediate and lasting importance concerning theatre for young audiences and theatre and drama education. Published quarterly. Distributed free as a membership service to members of AATE. Advertising accepted.

Subscription rates: \$20 per year (\$25 Foreign). Individual copies available for \$7.50.

Current Editor: Susan Pearson-Davis, Theatre Arts Dept., University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131.

### THE DRAMA/THEATRE TEACHER

This magazine includes practical articles on theatre education with an emphasis on classroom instruction K-12. Published three times per year. Distributed free as a membership service to members of AATE. Advertising accepted.

Subscription rates: \$20 per year (\$30 Foreign). Individual copies available for \$7.50.

Current editor: Judith Rethwisch, Affton High School, 8309 MacKenzie Rd., St. Louis, MO 63123.

### AATE NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter is the primary source of news and information about the ongoing activities of the association. Published quarterly. Distributed free as a membership service to members of AATE. Subscriptions are not available. No advertising accepted.

Current editor: C. John Tolch, Department of Theatre, 6194 Vilas Hall, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI 53706.

### AATE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Published annually, this directory includes names, addresses and telephone numbers of all AATE officers and board members, as well as the entire AATE membership. Subscriptions are not available. Advertising accepted.

### PROFESSIONAL THEATRE FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES (VOL. III)

A project of AATE, published by Arizona State University. This directory, which is published every other year, provides a profile of professional theatre organizations that produce work for young audiences. Distributed free as a membership service to members of AATE. Subscriptions not available. Advertising not accepted. Individual copies available for \$8.95/ea., plus \$2.00 shipping and handling.

(All of the above-listed publications are available through the AATE Office, Department of Theatre, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona 85287-2002.

Depending upon grant amount, payment will be made as follows: *0-\$500*, one-time lump-sum payment; *\$501-\$2,000*, two payments (90 percent, with ten percent after receipt of the final reports), *\$2,000-up*, three payments (two at 45 percent, and ten percent after final report.)

The amounts granted this year were determined according to recommendations to the Commission by funding advisory panels that met in April. The grants are for programs, events and activities occurring during state Fiscal Year 1992 (July 1, 1991-June 30, 1992).

By the application deadline of Feb. 1, 1991, the Commission office had received 131 applications requesting a total of \$1,287,060. The Commission had a total of \$541,000 available to award in major grants. At a previous meeting, the Commissioners had apportioned specific amounts of anticipated funding to each of the four grant categories — Local Arts Agency Support, Regional/Statewide Service Organizations, Basic Program Support and Project Support — based upon the numbers and amounts of grant support requested in previous years.

The Commissioners also approved special grants to organizations involved in the administration of KAC-supported programs during the coming fiscal year.

The monies granted by the Commission come from grants awarded to the KAC by the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency, and appropriations enacted by the

Kansas Legislature from the state general fund and Economic Development Initiative Funds, which are revenues from the Kansas Lottery.

Meetings of the Commission, a state agency, and of its funding advisory panels are open to public observation. For more information, contact the Kansas Arts Commission, 700 Jackson, Suite 1004, Topeka, Kansas 66603-3731, or telephone 913-296-3335.

## AATE Honors Phil Kinen

Kansas City artist and educator **Philip John Kinen** has been presented the "John C. Barner Theatre Arts Teacher of the Year Award" by the American Alliance for Theatre and Education. Kinen serves as Secondary Schools Division Chair for AKT.

The award was presented in August at the AATE national convention in Washington, D.C., by **Dr. Jeanne Klein**, a professor of children's theatre at the University of Kansas and former AKT Children's Theatre Division Chair.

Kinen is theatre and drama instructor at Pioneer Trail Junior High School, Olathe. He has served as a member of the committee which authored the Kansas State Drama/Theatre Curriculum Guidelines and chaired the last two AKT conventions. In addition to his teaching responsibilities, he also serves as artistic director of **Theatre in Shawnee Mission Park** and as a freelance director.



Needles

## Needles Reorganizes AKT Library

**Audrey Needles**, professor emeritus of theatre, The Wichita State University and long-time AKT member, is keeping active in the organization despite her recent retirement from full-time teaching. She is devoting a large number of hours to reorganizing and cataloguing the AKT script library, a project which should significantly reduce the amount of time it takes to get requested scripts into members' hands.

During 25 years at WSU, Needles served as Director of Experimental Theatre and Director of Speech/Theatre Education. She has directed "somewhere in the neighborhood of 200 plays and musicals," not all of them at the university. Other theatres in which she's worked include the **Music Theatre of Wichita**

and the WSU Opera Theatre, as well as Mercer University, Macon, Ga., and other colleges.

Needles also is one of the "regulars" on the directing staff of WSU's Summer Theatre. This year, she directed *Romance, Romance*, which opened the summer season.

In the course of the project, she has found a number of plays which had not been catalogued, but she has also discovered many cases where scripts have been checked out — in some cases, more than three or four years ago — and not returned.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Fortunately, AKT does not charge five cents per day as some libraries do. However, if you still have an AKT script and meant to return it several years ago, this might be a good opportunity to do so.



# Kansas Arts Commission Offers Tips Regarding Fund-Raising

While presenting a workshop at the Topeka Public Library on fund raising, Joan Flanagan presented some eye-opening facts about where to find money.

In 1989, \$115 billion was given to charitable organizations. Of that, \$7 billion was given to arts and humanities organizations. Where did all that money come from? If you answered corporations and foundations, the following information will come as a surprise. 84% of that \$115 billion (\$96 billion) was given by living individuals. 6% was given as bequests, 6% by foundations and 4% by corporations.

What does that mean for your organization? If your hopes for funding are riding on anything other than your friends, neighbors and individual community members, you may be in trouble. While a big grant can be a wonderful thing, the life blood of any charitable organization remains its individual members and supporters.

While a detailed examination of how to maximize your fund raising efforts is beyond the scope of this newsletter, there are some things that if you are not doing already, you might want to think about.

First and foremost, you need to recognize and accept that fund raising is the most important fact of life for your organization. No matter what you are trying to do, some part of it takes money.

You and your board of directors should take a look at your goals and objectives. Are you meeting the cultural and artistic needs of your community? Is what you are doing appealing to a broad base of support? Do you have a board made up of committed and enthusiastic people who contribute time, money and expertise? Does your board have people on it who have recognition and clout within your community? Why should people contribute to your organization? What are you doing for them? Are you perceived as "elitist?" Do you appeal to the best in people? Are you incorporated as a not-for-profit organization and are contributions tax deductible? Do you think of as many different ways to say "thank you" as possible? These are just some of the questions that you should ask yourself and your community. Too often, we only hear the positive things, which is

nice, but we need to find out the negatives as well, so we can improve.

Once you've made an honest and critical evaluation of your organization, and made any changes you feel are necessary, you'll want to plan your activities with an eye to broadening your base of support. Ask new people to volunteer for your projects. Volunteers are more likely to give money as well as time, because they know about the project and want to help. To raise funds, the critical thing to do is to ask! If you don't ask, no one will know what you need. And don't ask just once. Almost half the money given last year went to religious organizations. Why? Partly at least, it's because they ask people to give 52 times a year. While that might be a bit much, you should ask your supporters to give at least 6-8 times a year. You'll want to think of various ways to ask for their support; ticket sales, series subscriptions, special holiday gifts, etc. If people believe in what you are doing, they'll be glad for a chance to help out.

Don't be afraid to ask for what you need. Don't undervalue your program. Consider what it costs to go to a movie, or for any other type of activity. If your programming is meeting the needs of your community, they need to be given an opportunity to do their fair share. If you don't think it is important enough to charge a realistic price, no one else will either.

Fund raising is a many-faceted subject. There are many books written on the subject as well as magazines and newsletters. Check with your local library for what they have or can find on interlibrary loan. A good book to start with is *The Grass Roots Fundraising Book* by Joan Flanagan.

While none of these suggestions are things you don't already know, the changing climate of state funding makes it even more critical that you draw your support locally.

Kansas Arts Commission  
reprinted from *Rural Arts Program Initiatives*  
December 1990

## New Legislation Affects Charitable Organizations

In 1978, the Kansas Legislature passed the Charitable Organizations and Solicitations Act. The law required the registration of every charitable organization soliciting from Kansans by or through a professional solicitor or fundraiser, who received a portion of the funds raised as compensation. There were a number of exemptions from registering under the law. Most members and associate members of the Association of Community Arts Agencies of Kansas (ACAAK) fell into one of those exemptions. Penalties for violation were borrowed from the Consumer Protection Act and were small fines. The purpose of the act was to control unscrupulous solicitation by telephone "boiler" rooms and con artists.

In 1986, the North Carolina Association for the Blind challenged the North Carolina law that was the same as the Kansas law. The challenge asserted the law was a violation of the First Amendment rights of the organization and its members. The Supreme Court agreed and in 1987 struck down the law.

In 1988, the Kansas Legislature rewrote its Charitable Organizations and Solicitations Act (K.S.A. 17-1759 et seq.). The law requires all charitable organizations to register as a charitable organization with the Secretary of State. It also required a separate registration of any professional solicitor or fundraiser. The definitions of "charitable organization," "charitable purpose," "solicitor," and "fundraiser" were very broadly defined. The law also has twenty-one categories of exemptions that are very strictly defined.

At the time the Legislature had hearings on the new law in 1988, there was an understanding that organizations that were exempt under the old law would be "grandfathered" into the new bill as exempt. However, the Attorney General's office says it is interpreting the strict language of the statute and any statements at the hearings were just that — statements. They are enforcing the strict language of the statute.

The new statute has its own penalties section. The penalty section contains a fine of up to \$2,000 for each solicitation. It also empowers the Attorney General with subpoena powers to issue subpoenas commanding you to produce all your records, if they believe there is a violation of the act. And one of the violations is failing to register. The Attorney General and the Secretary of State are not issuing any opinions as to whether an organization is exempt, so if you do not register and they come after you, there is no safe harbor.

The law is poorly written. For example, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts are exempt. Cub Scouts and Brownies are not. The Junior League and the United Way are exempt. The American Association of University Women and the Lions club are not. Volunteer Firemen and their auxiliaries are exempt. Fraternal and Benefit Organizations of Police are not.

For most of the 161 member and associate members of ACAAK, there is no exemption. Unless you are under one of the exemptions, you are required to register with the Secretary of State and pay a \$20.00 annual

registration fee. If any ACAAK members wish further information or think they may be exempt, please contact me at 913/831-3600. We will provide each ACAAK member with an opinion of whether you are exempt. In most cases, unless you fit directly under an exemption, expect our opinion will be that you must register.

An important function that you can provide to other charitable organizations in your community is to make them aware of this new law. The damage can be so great and the fix is so small.

Jonathan C. Becker  
ACAAK

## Theatre Arts Outcomes Listed

When your local school district asks you to write "outcomes" for your drama/theatre students as part of the new educational reform movement in Kansas, keep the following in mind. These Arts Outcomes were written by the KSDE Commissioner's Arts Task Force in August, 1989. (AKT past president, John Stefano, served on this task force along with other members of the Kansas Alliance for Arts Education.

EACH KANSAN SHOULD BE PROVIDED THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP . . .

- . . . the knowledge and skill to continue his/her participation in the arts throughout his/her lifetime.
- . . . a perspective on the arts as an essential part of his/her cultural heritage.
- . . . the ability to perceive and understand the arts as a natural and desirable part of the world.
- . . . the ability to use the arts as a means of self-expression.
- . . . an awareness of the functions and uses of the arts in society.
- . . . the ability to recognize major styles in the arts, past and present.
- . . . a comprehension of the evolution of the arts as evidence of the human expressive response to circumstances and changes in the environment.
- . . . knowledge and skills for interpreting and responding to works of art and performance skills appropriate for participating in and/or appreciating artistic performance by others.
- . . . an attitude of openness to the multiplicity of aesthetic practices which exist in today's world, including those which are unfamiliar and those which evolve throughout his/her lifetime.
- . . . an appreciation of the finest and most complex examples of artistic expression.
- . . . an appreciation of the capacity of the arts to facilitate communication and aesthetic sensitivity.



## Have You Renewed For 1992?

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_

Memberships are valid  
**September 1 to August 31**  
 of each year  
 Make check payable to "AKT"

#### Categories of Memberships

##### Individual

Regular	\$20
Student/Senior	\$10
Small (Budget: Under \$10,000/yr.)	\$50
Large (Budget: Over \$10,000/yr.)	\$90

##### Contributing

Contributors	\$50- \$99
Friends	\$100- \$249
Donors	\$250- \$499
Sponsors	\$500- \$999
Patrons	\$1000-\$4999
Benefactors	\$5000 and up

VISA/MASTERCARD (Circle one)

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Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Division Affiliation (check up to two)

- ☐ Children's Theatre  
☐ Community Theatre  
☐ Professional Theatre  
☐ Secondary School Theatre  
☐ University/College Theatre

Mail this application with your check to:

**AKT Central Office**  
 949 Parklane, Suite 332  
 Wichita, Kansas 67218  
 (316) 685-9306

## Marquee

*Marquee* is published as a membership service of the Association of Kansas Theatre, Inc. Members are encouraged to submit information and articles about their work, special interests, honors/awards, or issues of concern to the general membership.

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**John A. Gedraitis**  
 Executive Director/Editor

## Pioneer Trail Jr. High Premieres "Whale"

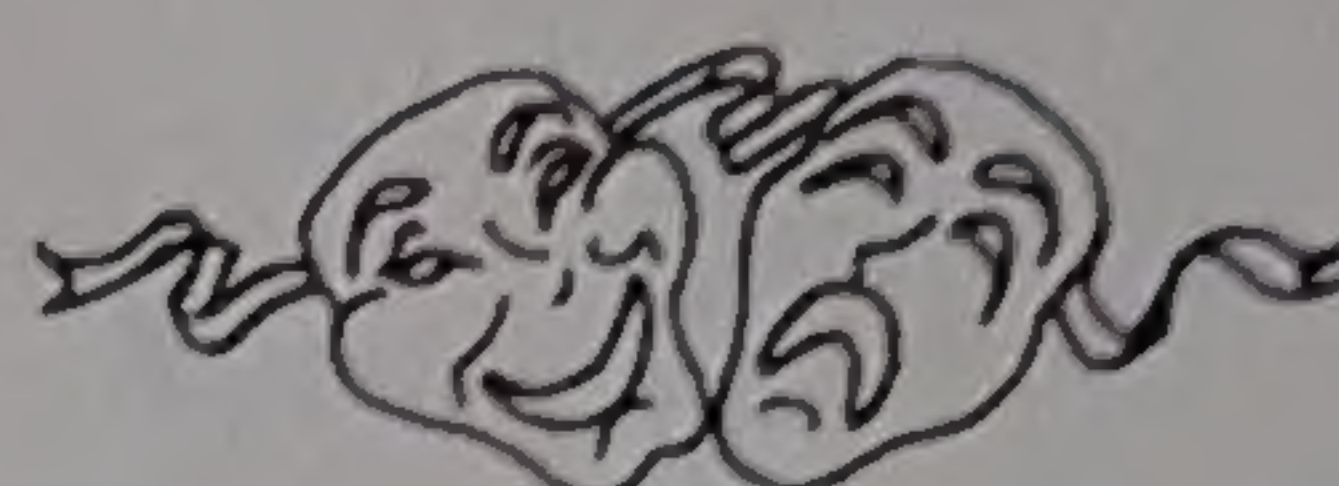
Pioneer Trail Junior High School, Olathe, will present the American premiere of *Whale* by David Holman, October 28-29. The play, an account of the three whales which captured international attention three years ago when they were trapped under Alaskan ice, originally appeared in the Lyttleton Theatre of the National Theatre on December 12, 1989.

In late October 1988, three gray whales found themselves trapped under the early ice in the Arctic Ocean off the coast of Alaska. Eskimos began cutting breathing holes in the ice, leading the whales toward the open seas several miles away. Greenpeace became involved and generated international interest in a successful effort to save the whales.

PTJHS drama instructor **Phil Kinen**, AKT Secondary School Chair, is very excited

about the premiere. "I became aware of the play when I was in London in January 1990. The thing that excites me is that the script is not written realistically. The play is presented in the form of the Alaskan Inuit myth. It's a marvelous educational piece that makes students aware of multi-cultures, international peacemaking, environmental affairs and myth."

Kinen is also enthusiastic about producing the work. "I've been in contact with the playwright, and he has already sent several script corrections," he said. "My students and I enjoy working with new scripts. It's a script that calls for participation from many students. Not only does it have a large cast, but it has a terrific educational packet that can be extended into the classroom."



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